

spend to buy war news in one day we could do, oh, how much good.

DESERVED A MONUMENT

I rode on the platform with a street car conductor, asking to be let off at the women's temple. We entered into conversation on temperance; he said he took a drink now and then, but he admired Miss Williard. He knew a man, a drunkard, he had given him free rides, he was poor and ill-clothed, but now he was well dressed and worked hard. He did not know who saved him, but he knew he was saved, and the one who did it, ought to have a monument. We had a good talk between the passengers getting out, and it was a good time for seed sowing. Talking about seed sowing reminds me of a gentleman who missed his car the other day to give me a half dollar. He said wife and I were reading about feet washing the other day and last night we reviewed it, and we think the Brethren church is right on that point. When others are gathering fruit here, some of it will come from our own seed sowing, and the more gathered the more we will rejoice. One thing is certain unless there is a period of seed sowing, there will be no harvest time. Let us sow the seed, sow it right, in good soil, under proper conditions, and God will give the increase.

AN EASTER GREETING

The sweet spring time has come round again. Green grass is pushing from the sod, the moving sap is pushing out the buds, some power in the birds is pushing melody from their throats, and we should push out into new positions, helping develop that which will beautify, attract, and make glad the hearts of others. Why, then, should we preach a dead Christ? It is not that resurrection we now need, but it is a resurrection of hope, of faith and gladness we need, a looking on the bright side of things, more faith in our fellow man, more joy in the world, throw off the dead twigs and leaves of doubt and unbelief, be positive and aggressive in our work, taking the world as we find it and making it what it ought to be, deal with men on a level not shooting over their heads, crushing the false and mean as we would the striking snake, protecting and training the shy, tender tendrils of purity as we would the frail blooming flowers in our window, as it grows out of the black soil of the pot, so we can grow into beautiful characters out of our black surroundings and narrow environments. This is the needed resurrection, and remember the path from the grave is clear, for the stone has been rolled away never more to return.

IN CLOSE QUARTERS

I mentioned last week about a sister calling to see us. We had no fire in the front room, and but a bucket of coal on the place, and were saving that for morning. Coming in, I found a letter from Brother Hopkins, with an express order inside. I made fire in a hurry, for that made me certain of coal. We run that short sometimes, and shorter than that. I am glad some good friends

send us some money direct. It comes as cold water to relieve thirst. Send us an Easter offering.

THE LANTERN

I have all but thirty dollars. Soon as that is raised I will report the donors, and tell you about the work. I expect this instrument to do much for rescue work, besides putting this money back in the fund of missions. The most of that sent in is left to my own judgment, and I shall use it satisfactorily, I think to all true workers. Can't you send us an Easter offering?

JOHN DUKE MCFADEN.

384 S. Western Ave.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The following pledges have been received in behalf of church property here since my last report:

J. C. Cassel, Phila., Pa.,	\$10 00
D. C. Ronk, Turlock, Calif.,	2 00
"Cash from Maryland," paid,	5 00
W. M. LYON.	

315 9th St., S. E.

Church News

Echoes from the Conflict

For a few days we have been resting from our winter's work in the revival field and have been doing some thinking about revivals and their results. One thing that strikes me as singular is the variation of results in revival work from year to year. By results I here mean accessions which have not been so great in Indiana this winter as in some former years. Doubtless there are reasons but one reason is sometimes urged which should be eliminated from the list, viz., providence. We are not hard-shell Baptists and should hold no ideas which could breed such doctrine as salvation by election. If there are souls in our communities which are unsaved and we have not brought them to Christ in our last revival let us not say "God did not favor us this year as he did last." Spasmodic working can only result in spasmodic accessions. Some revivals are misnomers; they should be called exertions. *Revivals* strengthen but *exertions* weaken. After an exertion a reaction sets in among the members, and often in the community as well, which becomes a relaxation of all religious interests. Spiritual life sinks below the normal. A year scarcely suffices to bring back a normal condition and a second year is needed to raise the spiritual life to the capacity of an exertion. After an exertion the congregation "rests from its labors" well pleased with "our success." Becoming self satisfied and restful (neglectful) too often those who have been brought to the church feel the inattention and indifference and either become drones or else fall away entirely. I would not release a pastor's responsibility one iota but all the lambs that perish must not be attributed to him. The parable is carried too far when a congregation makes the pastor a

man and the members sheep. The pastor is only a sheep with the sheep.

After a true revival the church should be stronger, more energetic, aggressive and enthusiastic than before. She should become warm and stay warm thereby giving life to those who have been added to her keeping. A new member in an active church will soon become active, if fully converted. If weakly he will be nursed into life and not left to perish without effort to save. The one great danger in revival meetings is that they become too artificial and forceful. We become prone to depend upon carnal means rather than spiritual.

We look for results on the wrong side of the vessel, in numbers instead of conversions. "If we can only get Brown, Smith and Jones into the church" is the cry, whereas it should be "If we can only get Brown, Smith and Jones to feel their need of Christ and their lost condition without him." We may build up a congregation but the Lord builds the church. There may be a large congregation but a very small church. A church is a congregation which feels its own safety and shows to the world that Jesus is the soul's fulness of joy, and has a love one for another. Such a church will need very little of the modern revival effort to bring men into fellowship with Christ. A congregation whose members live forty-seven weeks in the year as if they doubted their salvation, who look and run to the world for their joy and pleasure, will need a great revivalist and mighty efforts for five weeks to induce a few men and women to join its ranks.

A congregation which will give itself fully and humbly to Christ at all times will never fail to have a revival both of spiritual life and accessions. It will matter little whether Peter, Paul or Apollos does the preaching. In all my experience there has never failed to be accessions when the church gave herself as she should. But where there were divisions, a worldly spirit, or envy, or jealousy in the church, there has been failure. A revival is a renewal and not a resurrection and should be to the church a renewal of life, love and power. I believe that most, and I hope all, our revivals in Indiana this winter have been of the latter sort. In fact Indiana Brethren churches have continuous spiritual progress and that is good evidence that her revivals are renewals of grace and power for Christ.

At present only three-fourths my time is occupied in pastoral work. We go to Oakville once a month. The church there is aggressive as well as progressive. All departments of the church are well organized and active in their several spheres. While the church is isolated from the brotherhood of the state it is none the less loyal to the interests of the district and the general brotherhood. If several of the congregations near that part of the state would cooperate in their support of a minister and keep a man at work in that part of the state all his time, a number of churches might be organ-